

City of Tuscaloosa

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MEDIA NOTIFICATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: February 4, 2010

CONTACT: Heather McCollum

Office of the Mayor

(205) 248-5001

Community Conversations Begin March 4, 2010

A core belief for the City of Tuscaloosa is to be customer friendly and conduct business in an open, efficient and effective manner. In an effort to meet this belief, Mayor Walter Maddox launched his first Community Conversations Initiative in 2007. Due to the overwhelming success, this has become an annual event. The City is kicking off the 4th Annual Community Conversation on Thursday, March 4, 2010.

Community Conversations is a new approach to hosting a town hall meeting. Instead of talking at residents, the Mayor, Council Members and Department Heads want to talk directly with the people who pay their salaries. Community Conversations will be held three separate times across the City from 4:30pm to 6:30pm and is a come-and-go event. In other words, there will be no long speeches and presentations, just City leaders and information at your disposal.

The Mayor, District Council Members and all Department Heads will be available to talk to you about zoning, infrastructure projects, ideas and initiatives that are occurring in your community.

Below are a few of the highlights for residents from Community Conversations:

- Talk directly to Mayor, Council Member and Department Heads
- View and provide input on the updated 1972 Comprehensive Land Use Plan
- View neighborhood area comprehensive plans such as West Tuscaloosa, Forest Lake, Alberta and University
- Free blood pressure checks by the Tuscaloosa Fire Department

- Free fingerprinting of children by the Tuscaloosa Police Department
- View current job vacancies and apply for positions on-line
- Receive a copy of the City of Tuscaloosa's annual budget
- Receive information on the new Tuscaloosa Façade Loan Program for West Tuscaloosa, Alberta, University and downtown/riverfront districts
- Receive information on business licenses and tax structure
- Receive information on the 311 Call Center
- Receive information on filing claims and Municipal Court procedures
- Receive information on fire safety including fire alarm installation
- Receive information on how to form a neighborhood association
- Receive crime statistical information for your Council District
- View maps and provide input regarding future zoning, road, drainage, water and sewer projects in your community
- Learn about the City of Tuscaloosa's recycling and litter programs
- Receive information on inspection procedures
- View the construction progress and timeline for downtown and the riverfront
- Review information on emergency preparedness from weather threats to pandemic flu

Below are the dates and locations for each 2010 Community Conversation:

Thursday, March 4th - Westlawn Middle School

Thursday, March 11th - Alberta Elementary

Thursday, March 25th - Southview Middle School

Register to win reserved ticket seating for the Tuscaloosa Regional Air show. Refreshments provided by Coca-Cola. For additional information contact, 3-1-1.

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Make One Call to City Hall